

PTO/SB/30 (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002 OMB 0651-0031

Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

Request for Continued Examination (RCE) TRANSMITTAL Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 1.32, effective May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995. See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA):	Application Number	09/837,183
	Filing Date	April 18, 2001
	First Named Inventor	Charles A. Sellers
	Group Art Number	2835
	Examiner Name	Vortman, A.
	Attorney Docket Number	P00-3314/VAN (COMP:0210)

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14965 (Mar. 20, 2000); 12330ff. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. **Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114**

a. ☒ Previously submitted

i. ☒ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on March 31, 2003
 (Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).

ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____

iii. ☐ Other _____

b. ☐ Enclosed

i. ☐ Amendment/Reply

ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)

iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)

iv. ☐ Other Preliminary Amendment

2. **Miscellaneous**

a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) (required))

b. ☐ Other _____

3. **Fee**

a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 08-2025; Order No. P00-3314/VAN (COMP:0210)

i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)

ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)

iii. ☐ Other _____

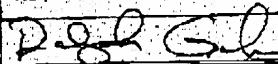
b. ☐ Check in the amount of \$ _____ enclosed.

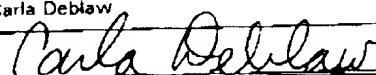
c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

FAX RECEIVED

APR 30 2003

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED		
Name (Print/Type)	Ralph A. Graham	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)
Signature		Date
		April 30, 2003

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:	
Name (Print/Type)	Carla Deblaw
Signature	
Date	April 30, 2003

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231.

FLETCHER, YODER & VAN SOMEREN

A Professional Corporation

Attorneys at Law

7915 FM 1960 West, Suite 330
Houston, Texas 77070Post Office Box 692289
Houston, Texas 77269-2289Telephone (281) 970-4545
Facsimile (281) 970-4503

FAX RECEIVED

APR 30

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

7635

Facsimile Transmission

DATE: April 30, 2003	FILE: COMP:0210 Serial No.: 09/837,183
TO: Vortman, A.	COMPANY: U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
FROM: Ralph A. Graham	EXTENSION: (281) 970-4545
FACSIMILE NUMBER: (703) 872-9319	NUMBER OF PAGES TO FOLLOW: 1

URGENT, PLEASE DELIVER IMMEDIATELY

NOTES/COMMENTS:

Attached is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal for the above-referenced patent application.

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTE

The documents accompanying this facsimile transmission contain information from the law firm of Fletcher, Yoder & Van Someren, P.C. which is confidential or privileged. The information is intended to be for the use of the individual or entity named on this transmission sheet. If you are not the intended recipient, be aware that any disclosure, copying, distribution or use of the contents of this faxed information is prohibited. If you have received this facsimile in error, please notify us by telephone immediately so that we can arrange for the retrieval of the original documents at no cost to you.